

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 and 20-27 are pending in this application.

Claims 1, 4-9, 11-17 and 20-27 stand rejected. Claims 2, 3 and 19 stand objected to.

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended. No new matter has been added by the present amendment.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1, 9, 13-17, 20-21 and 23-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,771,327 to Sekiguchi.

Applicants respectfully submit that Sekiguchi does not disclose or suggest a first transparent electrode disposed directly on a first retardation member, as recited in amended claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that Sekiguchi does not disclose or suggest a first retardation member disposed directly on a second transparent electrode, as recited in amended claim 13. Applicants respectfully submit that Sekiguchi does not disclose or suggest a touch panel integrally formed with a liquid crystal display panel to include the upper substrate of the liquid crystal display in common therewith, as recited in claim 20. Therefore, claims 1, 13 and 20 are not anticipated by Sekiguchi.

Claim 1 recites a first transparent electrode disposed directly on a first retardation member. In contrast, Sekiguchi discloses a substrate (26) disposed between an electrode (27) and a retardation film (77). *See e.g.*, Fig. 13 of Sekiguchi. As such, in Sekiguchi, the electrode (27) is not disposed directly on the retardation film (77).

Claim 13 recites a first retardation member disposed directly on a second transparent electrode. In contrast, Sekiguchi discloses a substrate (21) disposed between a retardation film (49) and an upper electrode (22). See e.g., Fig. 13 of Sekiguchi. As such, in Sekiguchi, the retardation film (49) is not disposed directly on the upper electrode (22).

Claim 20 recites a touch panel integrally formed with a liquid crystal display panel to include an upper substrate of the liquid crystal display in common therewith. In contrast, the touch panel (3) in Sekiguchi has substrates (21 and 26), and the LCD panel (4) in Sekiguchi has a substrate (1) disposed under the substrate (26) of the touch panel (3). As such, the touch panel (3) and the LCD panel (4) do not share a common substrate. It follows that the touch panel (3) is not integrally formed with the LCD panel (4). In contrast, the touch panel (3) is bonded to the LCD panel (4). See e.g., Fig. 3.

Accordingly, Sekiguchi does not anticipate claims 1, 13 and 20. Claims 9, 14-17, 21 and 23-26 depend from claims 1, 13 and 20, respectively. Thus, these dependent claims are also believed to be allowable.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 9, 13-17, 20, 21 and 23-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and that claims 1, 9, 13-17, 20, 21 and 23-26 are in condition for allowance.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 4 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekiguchi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,559,902 to Kusuda et al. ("Kusuda").

As stated above, Sekiguchi does not disclose or suggest a first transparent electrode disposed directly on a first retardation member, as recited in amended claim 1, and a touch panel integrally formed with a liquid crystal display panel to include the upper substrate of the liquid crystal display in common therewith, as recited in claim 20. Kusada does not cure the deficiency in this regard. Claims 4 and 22 depend from claims 1 and 20 respectively. Accordingly, claims 4 and 22 are also believed to be allowable.

Therefore, based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 4 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and that claims 4 and 22 are in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 5-8 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekiguchi.

As stated above, Sekiguchi does not disclose or suggest a first transparent electrode disposed directly on a first retardation member, as recited in amended claim 1, and a touch panel integrally formed with a liquid crystal display panel to include the upper substrate of the liquid crystal display in common therewith, as recited in claim 20. Claims 5-8 and 27 depend from claims 1 and 20 respectively. Accordingly, claims 5-8 and 27 are also believed to be allowable.

Therefore, based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 5-8 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and that claims 5-8 and 27 are in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekiguchi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,570,707 to Murakami et al. ("Murakami").

As stated above, Sekiguchi does not disclose or suggest a first transparent electrode disposed directly on a first retardation member, as recited in amended claim 1. Murakami does not cure the deficiency in this regard. Claim 11 depends from claim 1. Accordingly, claim 11 is also believed to be allowable.

Therefore, based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and that claim 11 is in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekiguchi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,881,453, 6,638,582, 6,097,460, 5,926,313, and 5,550,661.

As stated above, Sekiguchi does not disclose or suggest a first transparent electrode disposed directly on a first retardation member, as recited in amended claim 1. None of 6,881,453, 6,638,582, 6,097,460, 5,926,313, and 5,550,661 references cures the deficiency in this regard. Claim 12 depends from claim 1. Accordingly, claim 12 is also believed to be allowable.

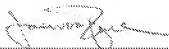
Therefore, based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and that claim 12 is in condition for allowance.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 2-3 and 10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants reserve the right to rewrite claims 2-3 and 10 in independent form in a subsequent response or communication.

An early and favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner may telephone Applicants' Attorney to reach a prompt disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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